

Having just seen what a disruption to our power grid can do, I offer the following points in regard to BPL.

1. A major disruption of communications and electric power creates an emergency of life-threatening wide-spread proportions. Amateur radio operators are trained, ready and willing to assist in providing communications during these emergencies. BPL, if it creates widespread interference, will be the death of that operator pool. The FCC should prove that BPL is benign before unleashing it on spectrum users.

2. Power companies should stick to their primary mission of supplying reliable electrical service to the nation's users, before they branch out into areas that they have no expertise. Obviously, their house is not in order, based on the magnitude of last week's outage.

3. There are many hidden costs in fielding a BPL system. Every circuit breaker and switch in the system that passes BPL will need to have a passband bypass across it. This degrades the integrity and reliability and safety of an already taxed system.

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